

# Swedish Golf Federation Rules Card 2026

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition are approved by the Swedish Golf Federation (SGF) Rules of Golf Committee and applies on Federation Competitions where SGF is the responsible organization and competitions included in the SGF Golf Ranking played at Swedish golf clubs (with some exceptions). In the event of a dispute arising as to the meaning of any Rule of Golf the Rule will be interpreted according to the English Edition of the Rules of Golf. For the full text of a Local Rule please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective from January 2023 as published by R&A Rules Limited.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a local Rule is the General Penalty.

## Section A – Local Rules

The following Local Rules, together with any additional Local Rules published by the Committee at the competition will apply.

### 1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

- (a) A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.
- (b) A ball that comes to rest beyond any road defining out of bounds, is out of bounds, even though it may come to rest on another part of the course. Model Local Rule A-5.
- (c) Gates in boundary fences and walls. Model Local Rule F-26.

### 2. Penalty areas (Rule 17)

#### Relief on opposite of red penalty area

- (a) Opposite side relief is available only to the red penalty areas that are listed on the Additional Local Rules under Model Local Rule B-2.1.
- (b) Opposite side relief is available when a ball last crossed an edge of a red penalty area that coincides with a boundary under Model Local Rule B-2.2.

### 3. Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16)

#### (a) Ground Under Repair

- i All areas indicated by white lines, blue stakes or in any other way indicated as Ground Under Repair.
- ii French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- iii Seams of cut turf: MLR F-7 is in effect.
- iv Animal hole: MLR F-6 is in effect prohibiting relief when only stance interference exists.
- v Painted yardage markings in the general area cut to fairway height or less. MLR F-6 is in effect prohibiting relief when only stance interference exists.

#### (b) Immovable obstructions

- i White lined areas tying into an obstruction, and the obstruction itself, are treated as a single obstruction.
- ii Landscaped or garden areas (and everything growing in them) that are surrounded by an immovable obstruction are a part of the immovable obstruction.

#### (c) Embedded ball

Rule 16.3 is modified in this way: Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect. Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in a stacked turf face above bunkers (including artificial stacked turf bunker faces). Furthermore, Model Local Rule F-7 is not applicable, including for vertical seams in a stacked turf face.

#### (d) Removal of Temporary Water.

Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect and is modified in this way: If a player's ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water, the player may:

- i Take free relief under Rule 16.1d, or
- ii Have their line of play squeegeed.
- iii Have the putting green squeegeed when a ball lies adjacent to the putting green in any part of the course, but only when authorised by the Committee.

2026-04-20

Such squeegeeing should be done across the line of play and extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole and may only be carried out by someone authorised by the Committee. The Committee may squeegee the putting green between groups.

#### **4. Animal not defined as loose impediment near ball**

Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect. An animal not defined as a loose impediment may be removed. If the ball moves there is no penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

#### **5. Immovable obstructions close to putting greens.**

Model Local Rule F-5.2 is in effect as follows:

When both the ball and the obstruction are in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. The obstruction must be:

- i On the player's line of play,
- ii On or within two club-lengths of the putting green, and
- iii The ball must be within two club-lengths of the obstruction

#### **6. Integral objects**

- (a) Bunker liners in their intended position. An exposed liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee, but in such cases prohibiting relief when only stance interference exists under Model Local Rule F-6.
- (b) The portion of wires, cables, wrapping or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- (c) Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings located within a penalty area.
- (d) Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings located on the edge of bunkers. These are not part of the bunker.
- (e) Artificial stacked turf faces above bunkers.

#### **7. Ball deflected by permanent overhead power line.**

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect. If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line located in bounds (not the supporting pole/pylon), the player must replay the stroke (see Rule 14.6). If the player replays the stroke but does so from a wrong place, they get the general penalty under Rule 14.7. If the player does not replay the stroke, they get the general penalty and the stroke counts, but the player has not played from a wrong place.

#### **8. Clubs and Balls.**

- (a) List of Conforming Driver Heads: MLR G-1 is in effect.  
**Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule:** Disqualification.
- (b) Groove and Punch Mark Specifications: MLR G-2 is in effect.  
**Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule:** Disqualification.
- (c) Conforming Balls List: MLR G-3 is in effect.  
**Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this local rule:** Disqualification.

#### **9. Play suspensions (Rule 5.7)**

Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows to suspend and resume play:

- i Immediate suspension (such as when there is imminent danger) - One prolonged note of the siren.
- ii Normal Suspension (such as when the course is flooded) - Three consecutive notes of the siren.
- iii Resume play - Two short notes of the siren.

All practice areas are closed during a suspension for imminent danger.

#### **10. Restrictions on practice (Rule 5)**

Before and between rounds - MLR I-1.1 (Match Play) or MLR I-1.2 (Stroke Play) are in effect and Rule 5.2a (Match Play) and 5.2b (Stroke Play) are modified in this way:

- A player must not practise on the course before or between rounds.

#### **Exceptions:**

- i A player may practice on the designated practice areas.
- ii A player may practice putting or chipping on or near their first teeing area

#### **Penalty for Breach of this Local Rule:**

2026-04-20

For first breach: General Penalty (applied to the player's first hole).

For second breach: Disqualification

### **11. Prohibiting use of means of transportation (Rule 4.3)**

MLR G-6 is in effect.

During a round, a player or her/his caddie must not ride on any form of transportation except as authorised by the Swedish Golf Federation.

**Exception 1:** Players born 1956 or earlier if authorised by their home club (applies only to a player who is a member of a Swedish golf club).

**Exception 2:** If a member of the committee at the competition in question temporarily gives permission to ride for a short distance.

**Exception 3:** A player taking stroke and distance relief is always authorised.

**Note:** Authorization is valid if; 1) the Committee assesses the condition of the course good enough to permit the use of transportation, and 2) the host club can provide transportation

#### **Penalty for breach of this local rule:**

The player gets the General Penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this local rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

### **12. Scoring in Stroke Play**

MLR L-1 is in effect and modifies the penalty for a missing signature(s) under Rule 3.3b(2).

### **9. Pace of play (Rule 5.6b (3))**

A player, for whom it is possible to make her/his intended stroke and, from when it is deemed that he/she should have reached her/his ball, has

- 60 seconds to make the stroke if he/she is deemed to not have had time for preparing for her/his stroke
- 40 seconds to make the stroke if he/she is deemed to have had time for preparing to make her/his stroke

A player in breach of any of the time limits is deemed to have a "bad time".

#### **Penalty for breach of this local rule during the same tournament:**

First bad time Verbal warning

Second bad time Match play and stroke play: One stroke penalty

Third bad time Match play: Loss of hole; Stroke play: Two stroke penalty

Fourth bad time Disqualification

#### **Notes:**

1. A player has had time to prepare for making her/his stroke if it is deemed that he/she should have reached her/his ball while,
  - a. another player in the same group, who is to make his stroke before the player, is preparing to make her/his stroke, or
  - b. the group in front of the player's group is within reach of the player's intended stroke.
2. It is not possible to make a stroke when,
  - a. the group in front of the player's group is within reach of the player's intended stroke, or
  - b. the player's group has a ruling or is waiting for a referee, or
  - c. the player has to wait for players on holes close by.
3. Players will not be advised that they are being timed.
4. Players will not be timed on a hole where a match can be decided
5. In case of a warning/penalty the player should of be informed as soon as possible.

## Section B – Terms of Competition

The following Terms of Competition together with the Terms of Competition stated in the manual that applies to the competition and any Terms of Competition published by the Committee at the competition will apply.

### 1. Standards of Player Conduct (Rule 1.2)

All players are expected to play in the spirit of the game by following Rule 1.2a. Penalty for breach of Rule 1.2a can (except disqualification) result in the following:

- Suspension from participating in Federation Competition (A- and B-competitions).
- Unable to qualify to competitions representing Sweden.
- Report/notification to the SGF Legal Committee.

For information regarding administration, dealing with and appeals against a players' breach against the term of competition see the manual for the competition in question.

### 2. Scoring Area and Scorecard Returned.

The location of the scoring area will be detailed on the additional local rules sheet. The scorecard is returned when the player has left the recording area.

### 3. Results of Competition – Competition Closed

The Competition is closed when the final result is officially published by the committee.

### 4. Anti-Doping

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the Anti-Doping Policy adopted by the Swedish Confederation of Sports and WADA.

**Note:** Players should be aware that, under the Anti-Doping Policy, if a player is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, he/she may face disqualification both from the tournament at which he/she was tested (or otherwise committed the violation) and from any subsequent tournament in which he/she participated until provisionally suspended or rendered ineligible under the Policy. Disqualification in such cases includes the loss of all results, points and prize money.

## Swedish Golf Federation – 2026



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